

# The Summit SCOOP

Summit STEM Elementary



November 2011  
Volume 1, Issue 2



*Our mission is to create a challenging learning community where students will be engaged in **Science, Technology, Engineering, Math** and language arts through an inquiry-based curriculum.*

## Reminders:

*\*School starts at 8:55. Students are permitted to enter the building at 8:45. Please do not drop off students prior to this time.*

*\*No School- NOV. 8, teacher inservice*

*\*Parent Teacher Conferences- NOV. 10 and NOV. 15- contact teacher for a time*

*\*Thanksgiving Break-Nov. 24-27*

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## Greetings Students & Families

It's hard to believe we have just completed our first nine weeks together. Time flies when you're having fun (and learning lots)! I hope your child has been enjoying the school year as much as we have. It was great to see so many families in attendance at our first STEM night. We served over 400 pieces of pizza and were excited to see our students and families engaging in hands-on science and engineering. All of the handouts from the event are available on the school website. Please be sure to share the science behind each exploration station with your child.

Our Fall Foliage Festival was also a big hit. The students looked "STEM-tastic" and it was obvious that a lot of complex and creative thinking went into their costume ideas. Here are a few of the STEM students that visited us last Friday: Albert Einstein and other scientists, robots (some with working lights!), static cling, magnets, chlorophyll, H<sub>2</sub>O, the water cycle, trees, flowers, animals, insects, doctors, astronauts, veterinarians, inventors, calculators, several Mr. Schottner's ☺, our own STEM pumpkin patch, the solar system, Ipads and many more! Thanks for your all your help and support to make these events possible!

Report cards will be shared during your conference on Nov. 10 or Nov. 15. We look forward to seeing you then! If you are not able to make it for a conference this time, report cards will be sent home on Friday, Nov. 11.

Thanks for your continued support. ☺  
*Dee Martindale*  
Principal

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Week Learning Adventures

Our learners will "dig" into Earth and Space Sciences over the course of this grading period, developing an understanding of Cycles, Systems and Processes that help shape the Earth.

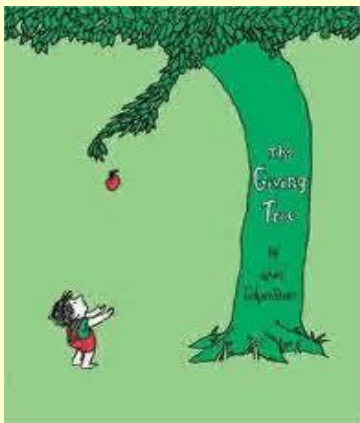
### Kindergarten

Kindergarten students will learn about seasonal change, the sun, moon and stars- as they relate to nighttime, and daytime, as well as basic weather changes. Our kindergartners will also learn about customs, tradition and heritage. They will work as editors and designers to create a family favorite cookbook.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Our first grade learners will understand the sun as the primary source of energy. They will also begin to develop a basic understanding of the water cycle (properties of water). In Social Science, they will focus on economics as they learn about the production and consumption of goods. They will design ornaments that they will market and sell to raise money for one our students undergoing a major surgery this winter.

# The Summit SCOOP



Want to help us get in gear this year? Please visit the bulletin board in the office to see each grade level's wish list.

*“The principle goal of education is to create those who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done -those who are creative, inventive and discoverers.”*

Read with your child 20 minutes a night and remember to fill out the reading log. ☺

*“The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”*  
Dr. Seuss

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**Summit Road Elementary School PTO**

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[http://www.reyn.org/summitroadelementary\\_home.aspx](http://www.reyn.org/summitroadelementary_home.aspx)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Our second graders will become meteorologists as they learn about the atmosphere, water and weather, and the tools used to collect weather data. Students will design and test various weather instruments. They will create informational power point presentations about weather to share with our kindergarten classes. They will also continue to lead our school recycling efforts as we work to reduce our environmental footprint. We now have a share table in the cafeteria thanks to the complex thinking of our second graders where students can place unopened food items, silverware, etc. instead of wasting them.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Our third graders will learn about Earth's renewable and non-renewable energy resources as they become conservationists, creating informational pamphlets for the community. They will share ways to better conserve and protect our resources and learn about laws and systems that relate to energy use and environmental protection. As part of their study, students will investigate properties of soil, rocks and water and experiment with water filtration systems through an Engineering is Elementary lesson.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Our fourth graders will continue their courtyard enhancement proposals, as they work to improve upon their first drafts. They will also begin to investigate Earth's characteristics, landforms, and the slow and rapid processes that change Earth's surface. Students will design 3-D popup books featuring landforms to share with our younger students. They will also present their courtyard proposals to Mrs. Martindale, the landscape architects and other content experts. The best ideas from each proposal will be selected for implementation in the spring.

## Technology and Engineering

In the Innovation Station 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade students have been working on learning the basics of power point. First graders created fabulous power point presentations that they shared with Mrs. Martindale persuading her to get them the perfect class pets. All students also worked with paper engineering to create pop-up cards. This nine weeks they will focus on learning Microsoft Word and paper-engineering with levers and linkage systems.

## PTO Corner

My, oh Pie! Thanks to everyone who participated in the pie sale. We met our goal and sold over 800 pies. The proceeds will go to fund our end of the year field day. Market day is an on-going fundraiser for our school. Look for the sales fliers in your child's folder or you can always order online at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com). Our account number is 29042, Summit Road Elementary PTO. For more information about Market Day, contact Allison Perez or Stephanie Clark at [sremarketday@gmail.com](mailto:sremarketday@gmail.com).

November 15- City Barbeque fundraiser- All Day Event- Dine in or order out! See school website for flier.

Remember to send in your Box Tops and Campbell's labels to help us earn money for the school.

PTO meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 in the school cafeteria. Babysitting will be provided by Girl Scout Troop 1318 under the direction of their troop leader, Amy Titchell. (\*If you do plan to utilize the babysitting services, please consider making a donation to this generous Girl Scout Troop.)

Any questions for PTO, please contact: [summitroadelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:summitroadelementarypto@gmail.com)